PATENT

Attorney Docket No.: 728-237 (JP9-2000-0043)

NOTHE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S):

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APPLICATION NO.: 09/825,013

GROUP ART UNIT: 2172

FILING DATE:

April 3, 2001

DATED:

March 31, 2004

FOR:

SPATIAL DATA MINING METHOD, SPATIAL DATA

MINING APPARATUS AND STORAGE MEDIUM

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 RECEIVED

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AMENDMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of the United States Patent and Trademark Office mailed December 31, 2003, please consider the following remarks and amendments.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8 (a)

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to the: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date set forth below.

Dated: March 31, 2004

Janelle Zul